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Keynote address at the Yarsi International Seminar

Kasetsart University Thailand
Stikes Yarsi Sumbar Bukittinggi
Jln. Tan Malaka Belakang Balok Bukittinggi
Sumbar, Indonesia.

22nd April 2017

Title: Prehospital Care: Interdisciplinary or a new discipline? (video presentation).

Abstract

This keynote address presented findings from a study into the impact of the Intermediate Ambulance Care (IAC) Course on prehospital care practice in Penang, Malaysia. This study considers the impact of an education program on the development of prehospital care practice in a developing country (Malaysia) and considers how the course might have contributed to the development of a profession. The questions addressed center on what the education program has achieved within the rapidly changing emergency medical system (EMS) in Penang, Malaysia.

Methods: Using a qualitative methodology, focused ethnography, data were collected from interviews, participation and observation of pre-hospital emergency care providers and medical professionals in Penang, Malaysia.

Results: Five themes were identified: quality care and training; standardisation of service delivery and training; training and professionalization; and change management. The themes describe how the participants' values and beliefs contribute to the increasing professionalization of their role in health care. Various challenges were identified including availability of personnel, integration of service delivery and resources. Notwithstanding, participants were committed to the vision of providing a valuable service to their community.